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Guest editors' preface

## Special issue on cryptography and coding theory

This special issue is dedicated to Professor Harald Niederreiter, one of the editors of this journal, on the occasion of his 60th birthday. Harald is a highly respected educator and a very distinguished scientist who has made important contributions in the areas of numerical analysis, pseudorandom numbers, quasi-Monte Carlo methods, cryptography, finite fields, applied algebra, algorithms, number theory, and coding theory. His book *Finite Fields*, co-authored with Professor Rudolf Lidl, has become a bible on the subject for many educators and researchers in applied mathematics, electrical engineering, and computer science. For a summary of Harald's life and his academic achievements, the reader may refer to "A Short Biography of Harald Niederreiter" included in this special issue.

This special issue consists of 19 technical papers, 5 of which are related to computational number theory, 4 to coding theory, and the others to cryptography. All technical contributions to this special issue have been carefully reviewed by leading experts.

We sincerely thank the referees for their kind assistance, and are very grateful to Professor Joseph Traub for giving us the opportunity to guest-edit this special issue.

On behalf of Harald's colleagues, collaborators, and friends, we thank him for his friendship and support and wish him all the best in all aspects of life in the many years to come.

Cunsheng Ding  
Chaoping Xing